

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 JIDDA 05235 100837Z

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ACTION SS-30

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O R 100810Z SEP 74 ZFF-4
FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA
TO USMISSION GENEVA NIACT IMMEDIATE
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S E C R E T JIDDA 5235

EXDIS

STATE FOR SECRETARY INGERSOLL

E.O.: 11652: GDS
TAGS: ENRG, SA, US
SUBJ: MESSAGE FOR MINISTER YAMANI

1. PLEASE PASS THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM AMBASSADOR
AKINS TO AHMAD ZAKI YAMANI, SAUDI MINISTER OF PETROLEUM,
WHO IS PROBABLY STAYING AT THE INTERCONTINENTAL:

A. "SORRY TO HAVE MISSED YOU IN JIDDA. THE DEPARTMENT
HAS JUST INSTRUCTED ME TO INFORM YOU THAT YOUR 'CONCEPT
OF A COMPACT AND TIGHTLY FOCUSED MINI-CONFERENCE' IS
ATTRACTIVE. 'WE WOULD WANT IT TO BE IN AS LOW-KEY AS
POSSIBLE TO AVOID RAISING EXPECTATIONS OR, CONVERSELY,
A SENSE OF FAILURE OR DESPAIR IF MEETING DID NOT RESULT
IN AGREEMENT.'" THE INSTRUCTION GOES ON TO SAY THAT THE
'LOW-KEY APPROACH WOULD ALSO SERVE TO DIMINISH SENSE
OF DRAMA OF CONFRONTATION WHICH WE WISH TO AVOID.'

B. "I THINK THIS CORRESPONDS EXACTLY WITH YOUR SUGGESTION.

C. "IF YOU ARE COMING BACK TO JIDDA BEFORE GOING TO THE
STATES WE CAN DISCUSS DETAILS THEN, OTHERWISE PERHAPS
WE CAN MEET IN WASHINGTON. YOUR OFFICE TELLS US YOU
ARE COMING BACK AROUND THE TENTH OF RAMADAN, I.E. SEPT-
EMBER 26, BUT I RECALLED YOU WERE TO GIVE A SPEECH IN THE
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STATES ON SEPTEMBER 24 AND THEN MIGHT STAY ON. I'M LEAV-

ING FOR DENVER SEPTEMBER 24 AND SHOULD BE IN WASHINGTON
SEPTEMBER 29. I'LL BE STAYING WITH BILL SIMON.

D. "ZAKI, MY FRIEND, I THINK THIS, ALONG WITH MY STRONG
APPROACH TO KING FAISAL AND OUR APPROACHES TO ALL OTHER
OPEC PRODUCERS ON PRICES, SHOWS CONCLUSIVELY THAT THE
U.S. REALLY WANTS TO AVOID A CONFRONTATION, AND THAT OUR
DESIRE TO REDUCE PRICES IS SINCERE. KEEP THINKING OF THE
STARVING AND FREEZING WIDOWS AND ORPHANS IN INDIA, ITALY,
AND ENGLAND. AND GOOD LUCH IN VIENNA.

E. NEW SUBJECT: "ROBERT ABBOD, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE FIRST
NATIONAL BANK OF CHICAGO IS HERE NOW AND WAS DISAPPOINTED
THAT YOU WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO SPEAK TO THE MID-AMERICA
GROUP ON SEPTEMBER 28. HE SAYS, AND I THINK HE'S RIGHT,
THAT THIS IS ONE OF THE MOST INFLUENTIAL BUSINESS BODIES
IN MIDDLE-AMERICA AND IT WOULD BE IMPORTANT FOR YOU TO
SPEAK TO THEM. HE NOTES THAT YOU'RE SPEAKING TO THE
ROTARY CLUB AT NOON, SEPTEMBER 24, AND ASKS NOW IF YOU
COULD COME EARLY AND SPEAK TO HIS GROUP THE EVENING OF
THE 23RD, OR STAY OVER AND SPEAK THE EVENING OF THE 25TH.
(SENATOR STEVENS IS GIVING A DINNER THE 24TH AND THIS
WOULD TAKE AWAY AT LEAST PART OF YOUR POTENTIAL AUDIENCE
ON THAT DATE.) COULD YOU LET ME KNOW YOUR DECISION THROUGH
OUR MISSION IN GENEVA OR OUR EMBASSY IN VIENNA?"

2. FOR MISSION GENEVA: PLEASE ADVISE WHEN THE MESSAGE IS
GIVEN AND WHAT RESPONSE, IF ANY, THERE IS FROM YAMANI.
AKINS

SECRET

NNN

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